



MENOMONEE VALLEY PARTNERS, INC., a Wisconsin nonstock, nonprofit corporation

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Ms. Laura Bray

September 20, 2005

Honorable Members of the Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development Committee
Milwaukee Common Council
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Committee Members:

Menomonee Valley Partners, Inc. (MVP) enthusiastically supports the Potawatomi Bingo Casino's proposal for expansion in the Menomonee Valley and the zoning change needed to facilitate their expansion.

The leading policy document guiding the Valley's redevelopment is the 1998 Menomonee Valley Land Use Plan. Not only was the expansion of the Casino anticipated in the Plan, but the Forest County Potawatomi Community has committed to expanding on their existing footprint. Through expanding up rather than out, the Potawatomi Tribe supports the Valley Plan's objectives, allowing existing Valley enterprises to grow and new businesses to locate in the Valley, while respecting its primarily industrial nature. Their proposed expansion will allow the Tribe to provide an additional 1,000 permanent jobs and 525 construction jobs to the Milwaukee community, especially to those neighborhoods surrounding the Valley.

Potawatomi Bingo Casino, which hires many of its employees from the Valley's adjacent neighborhoods, is a major Milwaukee employer and a force behind the improvements now unfolding in the Valley, including the redevelopment of Canal Street and the preparation of land for future high-quality industrial development. Since MVP's inception, a Potawatomi representative has served on the MVP Board and the Tribe's foundation has provided MVP with support that helps us implement the vision of a redeveloped Valley with quality jobs, environmental improvements and community amenities to benefit all of Milwaukee.

MVP recognizes the importance of the Potawatomi's contributions to the history of the Menomonee Valley, as well as to its future. The Menomonee Valley is the ancestral home of the Potawatomi Tribe, and through their sustainable building designs and community investments, they have provided Milwaukee with fine examples of stewardship. MVP looks forward to working with the City of Milwaukee and Potawatomi Bingo Casino to integrate the Menomonee Valley Sustainable Design Guidelines into this project. MVP is grateful to have in Potawatomi a partner dedicated to the future of the Menomonee Valley and the Milwaukee community as a whole.

Sincerely,

Laura Bray
Laura Bray
Executive Director

cc: Jeff Crawford, Forest County Potawatomi

MVP**A facsimile from***Laura Bray*

Executive Director

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To:

Linda Elmer

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Date: 9/19/2005

***Revitalizing the Menomonee Valley for the benefit of the entire
Milwaukee community. ***

Regarding: ZND meeting**Comments:**

Please submit this letter of support for file number 050468 – which is the eight item on the agenda – I believe.

Thank you.